

ADDENDUM TO FILIPINO CHAPTER ***in Asian Americans in Utah - A Living History***

Philippine Independence

The date of the Philippine independence is somewhat controversial. Some believe that day is July 4, 1946 while others recognize June 12, 1898 as Philippine Independence Day as proclaimed by General Emilio Aguinaldo in Kawit, Cavite, and ratified by the Malolos Congress on September 29, 1898. In 1962, Philippine President Diosdado Macapagal officially proclaimed June 12, 1898 as the Philippine Independence Day, and July 4, 1946 as the date the United States recognized Philippine Independence.

Additional History of Filipino Organizations in Utah

The Filipino organizations in Utah are comprised of the PAAU, PABAU, Maharlika, PAUFU, and LIKHA. The PAAU (Pili pino American Association of Utah) was established in 1977, with support from the late Governor Scott Matheson and a strong grass roots movement. It serves as the conduit of help and attention between the state and the Filipino community. The PABAU (Philippine-American Bayanihan Association of Utah) was founded in 1987 to promote socio-cultural ties among Filipinos through social and family activities and the production of cultural showcase events. Maharlika has served since 1989 as a cultural voice of the Filipino-Americans in Utah by performing in festivals and public events. The Philippine-America United Families of Utah (PAUFU) was founded in 1992 to promote wholesome, family-oriented Filipino values and traditions as well as assisting newly arrived persons in the assimilation process. LIKHA is a performing group that strives to showcase Filipino cultural art while affording young people the opportunities for cultural growth and development.

Other Filipino Pioneers

Dr. Baldomero Olivera, an early Filipino immigrant to Utah, made significant, nationally recognized contributions in his profession. He was awarded the Senior U.S. Scientist Award in 1978 and the Utah

Governor's Medal for Science and Technology in 1991. He served as the Director of the Interdepartmental Neuroscience Program and received the Distinguished Professor of Biology award at the University of Utah.

The following individuals also merit mention: Joe Alibang, Pedro Arciaga, Dick Foronda, Tony Gano, Macario Guing, Fred Javier, Jimmy Jimenez, Severo Ladrido, Pedro Laroco, Bert Laroco, Macario Manglinong, Alipio Mariano, Sam Ninalga, Tony Ninalga, Vicente Ong, Macario Organiza, Larry Platon, Benny Surel, Carmino Tabora, Benny Tejero, and Silvino Toledo.

Other Significant Events

Asian Pacific Festival: The Philippine community has participated in this event since 1978. Milagros Baldazo served as the program coordinator for the first three years.

Utah Philippine Garden: The Utah Philippine Garden was dedicated in 1979 with then Philippine consul Romeo Arguelles as guest speaker. The Philippine section of the larger Utah International Peace Garden was spearheaded by Pedro and Agapita Raneses.

Sister Cities: In 1984, Quezon City, Philippines was named as a sister city to Salt Lake City with the purpose of promoting cultural ties between the two cities. Several delegates from that city have participated in the Days of '47 celebrations in Utah.

Radio Filipino: From 1979 to 1994, Radio Filipino featured traditional and modern Philippine music on KRCL.

Misang Bayan: The Filipino Catholics in Utah are desirous of preserving religious traditions and festivities such as the Pabasa, Flores de Mayo, making of the "parol", a summer Fiesta and doing the "mano".

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